

Dear Chairman Powell and Commissioners,

As a citizen who wants to be informed about the political and electoral issues that affect my life, I am greatly disappointed by the lack of informative television programming.

As a single mother, I taught MY child about the gifts AND responsibilities that come with being AMERICAN.

MY Son SERVES HIS COUNTRY TODAY, having sworn to defend our Nation, our Constitution, & Bill of RIGHTS. I hold each of YOU accountable, along with media, for Americans being MISLED to IRAQ, the lack of NON-partisan/INVESTIGATIVE reporting, OVERSIGHT and INTEGRITY that encouraged our People to believe LIES. Local public affairs programming is virtually non-existent--constituting less than one half of 1% of all local programming. More than half of news broadcasts prior to the 2002 elections did not include a single campaign story. I WATCH my elected employees in DC, I see how they fail to do "the People's Business". Our democracy is at risk when many Americans don't know basic facts about the candidates or the issues, as was the case in the 2000 elections.

WHY do we have 24/7 "news"

programs, and NO SUBSTANTIVE NEWS? I have an automatic response to NO-news stories, I change the channel, while making note of sponsors to add to my personal boycott list. More is covered on these domestic-murder trials than on the ISSUES effecting all Americans, daily.

Broadcasters have clearly failed in their obligation to serve the public interest, the FCC should define meaningful public interest requirements that include local civic and electoral affairs programming. At a minimum, broadcasters should air three hours per week of local civic and electoral affairs programming, with at least two hours devoted to substantive election coverage in the six weeks prior to Election Day.

As the elections approach, a well-functioning democracy demands that citizens have access to a diversity of opinions and voices on the choices confronting us. AN INFORMED PEOPLE will make wise decisions. OOPS! YOU wouldn't want THAT, would you?

Thank GOD for CSPAN.

Sincerely,

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